fixed to smoothen credit flow to handicrafts artisans. As regards Swarojgar Credit Card (SCC), under which weavers are covered, no sector-wise target has been fixed by NABARD.

(b) As reported by banks, 23869 artisans have been benefited so far under ACC. Since SSC covers other vocations also, segregated figures of number of weavers covered are not maintained.

(c) Handloom export at present, predominantly consist of fabrics and made-ups. The share of garments in the export is quite minimal and negligible. However, the Government has a scheme called Handloom Export Scheme to promote export of handloom products in general including the handloom garments.

Ban on Indian companies by US

3086. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that US has banned 5 Indian textile companies for quota fraud; and

(b) if so, the details thereof with action plan of Government to control recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) It had come to notice that certain textile exporters had wrongly utilised the visas issued in certain categories of items for clearing the exports of another set of items covered by Group-II limits. The US customs have been requested that the shipments of five Indian exporter firms suspected to have indulged in visa malpractices may be cleared after consultation with Indian authorities.

(b) As the textile quota regime has come to an end on 1.1.2005, there is no scope for such malpractices in the future. However, suitable action is being taken against such exporters found to have misused the visas. They were temporarily debarred from exporting under Textile Quota Policy. The Enforcement Committee has requested for further clarifications from the US authorities, pending receipt of which the temporary debarment order remain in force against these exporters. A reference has been made to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for making a detaild enquiry into the whole affair.